
3. IMAGE PROCESSING UNIT AND IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD

PAJ 02-01-01 01045412 JP NDN- 043-0202-6354-2

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PATENT APPLICATION NUMBER- 11211294

DATE FILED- 1999-07-26

PUBLICATION NUMBER- 01045412 JP

DOCUMENT TYPE- A

PUBLICATION DATE- 2001-02-16

INTERNATIONAL PATENT CLASS- H04N00576; G03G02100; H04N00100

APPLICANT(S)- CANON INC

PUBLICATION COUNTRY- Japan

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To enhance efficiency of data processing of an image processing unit by allowing the image processing unit to check a level of a video signal so as to discriminate whether or not a monitor is connected to the processing unit, applying expansion processing to image data for a display purpose, displaying the processed image data onto the monitor when the discrimination indicates the connection of the monitor and executing a processing on the basis of an instruction when the discrimination indicates no connection of the monitor.

SOLUTION: An electrophotographic image expansion means applies image expansion processing to an electrophotographic image and a layout template. A display means displays the electrophotographic image or contents of the template with the electrophotographic image pasted thereto onto an external monitor such as a television receiver through a video signal cable 190 interconnecting a processing unit main body section 100 and the external monitor 200 such as a television receiver when receiving a display instruction from a display execution instruction means. A monitor connection discrimination means checks the level of a video signal supplied through the video signal cable 190 so as to discriminate whether or not the external monitor 200 such as a television receiver is connected to the processing unit. The electrophotographic image expansion means conducts the image expansion processing only when the discrimination indicates the connection of the monitor.

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